

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact:**

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Health Department Warns About Rabid Bat

Eau Claire, WI – August 9, 2019—The Eau Claire City-County Health Department is warning the public about a rabid bat found in the City of Eau Claire August 7, 2019 near the amphitheater in Phoenix Park. The bat was found crawling on the ground unable to fly.

Anyone with possible exposure to this bat should seek immediate medical attention.

An exposure includes:

- ✓ A bite from any animal, including wild, stray, or domestic pets.
- ✓ Saliva or brain tissue from an animal gets into a scratch, wound, or mucous membrane (e.g. nose, eyes).

Possible exposure includes:

- ✓ A bat in the room with an unattended child, mentally impaired person, intoxicated person, or anyone who has been sleeping.
- ✓ A bat in firewood hand-carried into the home.

Bats are considered by federal and state health authorities to be of high risk for carrying rabies. Any exposure to a bat should be reported to your physician immediately. Additionally, please report any bat exposure to the Health Department at (715-)839-4718.

For more information about rabies: <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/home/showdocument?id=29340>

cc: Eau Claire County Communications Center

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